

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A navigation system comprising:

a storing unit ~~adapted~~ configured to store link data of links configuring roads on a map;

a detection unit ~~adapted~~ configured to detect a current position of a vehicle in case the navigation system itself is started;

a route searching unit ~~adapted~~ configured to use the link data to search, before setting of the a destination is accepted, for a route from the detected current position to an intersection which is provided within a range of a predetermined distance, and to search a route from the intersection to the destination after the setting of the destination is accepted; and,

a route recommending unit ~~adapted~~ configured to specify a route ~~which is~~ composed of the route from the current position to the intersection and the route from the intersection to the destination, as searched by the route searching unit, as a recommended route.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A route searching method in a navigation system, ~~wherein: the navigation system includes~~ including a storing unit ~~adapted~~ configured to store link data configuring roads on a map~~[[.]]~~, ~~and where~~ the route searching method ~~is effected~~ in the navigation system to execute:

a detecting step ~~for detecting to detect~~ a current position of a vehicle in case the navigation system itself is started;

a first searching step ~~for using to use~~ the link data for searching, before accepting setting of ~~the~~ a destination, for a route from the detected current position to an intersection ~~which is provided~~ within a range of a predetermined distance;

~~a~~ an accepting step ~~for accepting to accept~~ a setting of the destination;

a second searching step for using the link data for searching, after accepting the setting of the destination, a route from the intersection to the destination by using the link data; and

a route specifying step ~~for specifying to specify~~ a route ~~which is composed of~~ the route searched from the current position to the intersection by the first searching step and the route searched from the intersection to the destination by the second searching step, as a recommended route.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) A navigation system as claimed in claim 1, ~~wherein the storing unit is adapted to store a data size of link data within each mesh area configuring the map;~~ the navigation system further comprising:

a unit ~~adapted~~ configured to read the data size of the link data within the each mesh area from the storing unit, and to store the data size within a memory;

wherein the storing unit is configured to store a data size of link data within each mesh area configuring the map; and

wherein the route searching unit ~~refers~~ is configured to refer to the data size of the link data within the each mesh area stored in the memory before reading the link data, and ~~confirms~~ to confirm whether or not the link data can be developed on the memory.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) A route searching method as claimed in claim 3,

wherein the storing unit ~~is adapted~~ is configured to store a data size of link data within each mesh area configuring the map;

wherein the navigation system further comprising: comprises a unit ~~adapted~~ configured to read the data size of the link data within the each mesh area from the storing unit, and to store the data size within a memory; and

wherein the navigation system further executes ~~[[.]]~~ a step of referring to the data size of the link data within the each mesh area stored in the memory before reading the link data, and confirming whether or not the link data can be developed on the memory.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) The navigation system of claim 1,  
wherein the route searching unit is configured to use the link data to search,  
before the navigation system is started, for a route from the detected current position  
to an intersection which is provided within a range of a predetermined distance

10. (New) The route searching method in a navigation system of claim 3,  
wherein the first searching step to use the link data for searching, before the  
navigation system is started, for a route from the detected current position to an  
intersection provided within a range of a predetermined distance;